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Statement of Chairman
Barry Goldwater
Senate Select Committee on
Intelligence Mark-up of
S. 2422 The CIARDS Spouses'
Equity Act of 1982
June 17, 1982

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STATEMENT OF
CHAIRMAN BARRY GOLDWATER
OF THE
SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE
AT THE PUBLIC MARKUP OF
S. 2422, THE CIARDS SPOUSES' EQUITY ACT OF 1982
THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 1982

THE MEETING WILL COME TO ORDER.

TODAY, THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE IS MEETING IN OPEN SESSION TO MARKUP S. 2422, THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SPOUSES' RETIREMENT EQUITY ACT. THIS BILL WOULD ESSENTIALLY PROVIDE THE SPOUSES OF CIA EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE SERVED ABROAD A VESTED INTEREST IN THE RETIREMENT BENEFITS OF THE EMPLOYEE. I AM PLEASED TO JOIN MY GOOD FRIEND, THE DISTINGUISHED FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, SENATOR INOUE, AS A COSPONSOR OF THIS BILL.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS BILL IS TO SET UP A SYSTEM THAT WOULD PROVIDE CIA SPOUSES WITH RIGHTS TO SURVIVORS PENSIONS. IT WOULD ALSO GIVE SOME DEGREE OF PROTECTION TO SPOUSES WHOSE MARRIAGES END IN DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS. THESE BENEFITS ARE NOT NOW AVAILABLE TO CIA SPOUSES ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE BEEN PROVIDED TO FOREIGN SERVICE SPOUSES. I BELIEVE THAT IT IS HIGH TIME WE GIVE THIS CONSIDERATION TO CIA SPOUSES AS WELL.

SENATOR INOUE'S BILL WOULD ALLOW CIA SPOUSES TO GET THE SAME TREATMENT AVAILABLE TO FOREIGN SERVICE SPOUSES BY ALLOWING QUALIFIED

FORMER SPOUSES TO SHARE IN THEIR DIVORCED PARTNER'S RETIREMENT BENEFITS. IT ALSO MAKES THEM ELIGIBLE FOR SURVIVORSHIP BENEFITS.

IN MY JUDGMENT, CIA SPOUSES DESERVE THIS CONSIDERATION. THEY ARE CALLED UPON TO SERVE IN REMOTE POSTS OVERSEAS. THEY ARE SUBJECT TO FREQUENT TRANSFERS, AND OFTEN LIVE UNDER DIFFICULT AND DANGEROUS CONDITIONS. THEY PLAY A VERY IMPORTANT PART IN THE SUCCESS OF THE OVERALL AMERICAN MISSION ABROAD.

I ASK THAT THE REMAINDER OF MY STATEMENT BE PLACED IN THE RECORD OF THESE PROCEEDINGS. SENATOR INOUE, DO YOU HAVE A STATEMENT?

BECAUSE OF OUR DEBATE ON THE INTELLIGENCE IDENTITIES PROTECTION ACT EARLIER THIS YEAR, MANY OF OUR COLLEAGUES HAVE BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE PERNICIOUS ACTIVITY OF "NAMING NAMES." AS YOU KNOW, NAMING NAMES IS AN ACTIVITY WHERE CERTAIN DISLOYAL AMERICANS FERRET OUT THE NAMES OF OUR COVERT AGENTS ABROAD, AND PUBLISH THESE NAMES FOR ALL TO SEE.

WE ALL KNOW THAT RICHARD WELCH WAS ASSASSINATED BECAUSE OF NAMING NAMES. HAS ANYONE EVER STOPPED TO THINK HOW MR. WELCH'S WIFE AND FAMILY WERE AFFECTED BY THIS MURDEROUS ACT? WHEN THE KINSMAN FAMILY HOME WAS MACHINE-GUNNED AND BOMBED IN JAMAICA TWO YEARS AGO, DID ANYONE EVER STOP TO THINK HOW THIS VICIOUS ACT AFFECTED MRS. KINSMAN AND HER FAMILY? DID ANYONE EVER WONDER WHAT THE KINSMAN'S YOUNG DAUGHTER MUST THINK ABOUT THE FACT THAT HER BEDROOM WAS RIDDLED WITH BULLET HOLES?

LET ME GIVE AN EXAMPLE OF THE TYPE OF ADVERSE PUBLICITY THAT SPOUSES OF AMERICAN CIA AGENTS SERVING ABROAD OFTEN HAVE TO FACE.

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ON PAGE 292 OF LOUIS WOLF'S BOOK TITLED "DIRTY WORK 2: THE CIA IN AFRICA," THE FOLLOWING TWO PARAGRAPHS WERE WRITTEN OF THE CIA SPOUSE IN THE CONTEXT OF PERNICIOUS ACTIVITY OF NAMING NAMES:

WHERE AVAILABLE, WE HAVE INCLUDED THE NAME OF THE PERSON'S SPOUSE, AS OF THE MOST RECENT AVAILABLE OFFICIAL SOURCE, TO AID IN FURTHER IDENTIFICATION. WE HAVE TRIED TO GIVE THE WIFE'S MAIDEN NAME. THE DIVORCE RATE IN THE CIA IS HIGH, SO THESE WILL SOMETIMES NOT BE CURRENT.

IN THIS CONNECTION, IT MUST BE SAID THAT CIA WIVES (AND HUSBANDS) NEARLY ALWAYS KNOW WHAT AGENCY IS EMPLOYING THEIR SPOUSES. NORMALLY, THEY HAVE AN ACTIVE ROLE TO PLAY IN MAINTAINING COVER, EVEN ON OCCASION TAKING PART IN SPECIFIC OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES. THUS, THE SPOUSE OF A CIA OFFICER IS NO "JUST A WIFE OR HUSBAND."

I THINK WE CAN DRAW TWO IMPORTANT POINTS FROM THIS QUOTE.

FIRST, THE ENEMIES OF AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE, SUCH AS LOUIS WOLF, CONSIDER THE CIA SPOUSE TO BE EQUAL TO THEIR PARTNER WHEN SERVING OVERSEAS. THEY IMPLY, THEREFORE, THAT IT IS OK TO TREAT THEM IN THE SAME FASHION THAT OUR CIA AGENTS HAVE BEEN TREATED IN RECENT YEARS. THEY SUGGEST IN THIS QUOTATION THAT YOU CAN HARASS CIA SPOUSES, OR THROW BOMBS AT THEIR HOMES, OR THREATEN THEIR CHILDREN, AND THAT IS OK. THIS IS THE SORT OF SITUATION THAT THE CIA SPOUSE AND FAMILY MAY BE FORCED TO COPE WITH WHEN SERVING OVERSEAS.

SECOND, DIVORCE RATES AMONG CIA FAMILIES ARE UNUSUALLY HIGH. PROBABLY THIS IS BECAUSE OF THE MANY PRESSURES THE CIA FAMILY MUST FACE WHILE SERVING THIS CONGRESS AND THE NATION ON DIFFICULT MISSIONS OVERSEAS.

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I FOR ONE BELIEVE THAT THIS LEGISLATION WOULD RECOGNIZE IN A SMALL BUT IMPORTANT WAY THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SERVICE OF THESE LOYAL AND PATRIOTIC AMERICANS. IT WOULD GO A LONG WAY TO HELP INSURE THAT THESE PEOPLE ARE PROTECTED LATER IN LIFE, REGARDLESS OF THEIR FUTURE MARITAL CIRCUMSTANCES. IT WOULD RECOGNIZE IN A SMALL WAY THEIR VITAL SERVICE TO THEIR NATION.

THIS BILL, IF ENACTED, WOULD CREATE NO SIGNIFICANT COSTS TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT. NOR DOES IT RESULT IN ANY SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE IN CURRENT LAW.

I COMMEND SENATOR INOUE FOR HIS LEADERSHIP IN BRINGING THIS SITUATION TO OUR ATTENTION. IT HAS BEEN OVERLOOKED FOR A LONG TIME. I BELIEVE IT IS TIME WE DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, AND THIS BILL SEEMS TO ME TO BE A VERY GOOD WAY. I URGE MY COLLEAGUES TO SUPPORT AND COSPONSOR THIS IMPORTANT LEGISLATION.